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# Aging

U.S. Department of **HEALTH, EDUCATION, and WELFARE**

No. 10 - March 1954

## Arts and Crafts for Older People: the New Hampshire Approach

by

Howard E. Swain

Director, Trade and Industrial Education  
N. H. Department of Education

The League of New Hampshire Arts and Crafts grew out of the need of individuals to supplement their incomes in order to maintain a minimum living standard. The idea originated during the early days of the depression and was developed in the Town of Sandwich, a small country town in the White Mountains area, largely through the efforts of Mrs. J. Randolph Collidge and with the blessing of Governor John G. Winant.

New Hampshire is a highly industrialized State with a strictly rural character. A very high percent of the people live on farms and are employed in local industries. A few generations ago almost every farm had a shop in its front yard where various crafts were practiced. By the 30's this was no longer true.

But though many of the old crafts were dying out, it was found that they could be revived without much difficulty. Much of the old equipment and many of the tools were still available, and in some cases the shops were just as the last craftsman had left them. Even the know-how had not completely disappeared. Basketry, weaving, silversmithing, spinning and dyeing, cabinetmaking, candlemaking, needlework and many other crafts were encouraged from the start.

A grassroots organization was developed to accomplish two purposes - (1) to build up skills and knowledge of the older crafts to a point where the product of the craftsman was readily salable, and (2) to provide a sales outlet.

A group of local craftsmen was formed to carry out the two objectives. Soon other groups were organized in various parts of the State.

This brought into being the League of New Hampshire Arts and Crafts with the primary responsibility of assisting the local group in developing better instruction and sales. The League is a nonprofit organization incorporated under the laws of New Hampshire, with its own board of directors elected by its membership. The State Legislature annually appropriates a small sum (currently \$8,000) for its support.

### PROVIDING NECESSARY INSTRUCTION

From the very first it was found necessary to provide instruction for the craftsmen. In cooperation with the State Department of Vocational Education, highly skilled teachers were secured and classes set up. A jury of craftsmen was established to judge the quality, craftsmanship and salability of each article produced.

At the outset, the quality of the craft articles was rather low, but close cooperation between the instructors and the jury resulted in a rapid upgrading. This type of service to the craftsman has never been relaxed. Careful

check is made on the type of article that finds a ready market. Considerable effort has been required to keep the shops well supplied. Individual craftsmen have been encouraged to develop designs of their own. Although no copyrights are secured there seems to have always been an unwritten gentleman's agreement to respect the rights of others.

Fairs, both local and State-wide, are the lifeblood of the League, and the State Crafts-

#### HOW THE LEAGUE OPERATES

Local Groups. These have their own officers and act as an independent unit, operate their own sales outlet, have their own local jury who pass on the quality and salability of the local product. They also make suggestions as to changes and new ideas, organize classes for craftsmen, request approval of those classes from the League State office as soon as organization on the local level is complete, secure quarters and equipment for the local classes, cooperate with the State League of Arts and Crafts.

The League assists local groups in organizing, securing instructors, supplying shops with craft articles, providing materials, upgrading the craft article (State jury). It operates in cooperation with the State Department of Vocational Education: classes throughout the State for craftsmen, teacher training classes. Operates State-wide Craftsmen's Fairs. Cooperates with other State agencies in New Hampshire, State agencies outside New Hampshire, arts groups, schools and colleges.

State Jury. Acts as the local jury but passes judgment on all articles to be sold on a State-wide basis, recommends to each craftsman what he can do to improve his product, suggests sources of information, teachers and craftsmen he can contact and libraries from which he can get information.

Guilds. Each craft, such as weaving, jewelry, needlework, woodcraft, etc., is now organized on a State-wide basis. Object: to assist individual craftsmen, to improve all work in its own field, to cooperate with other fields, to provide jury assistance in its own field when requested, to help build up the whole field of arts and crafts.

Individual Craftsmen. The only excuse for an organization of this type! Each individual sells his product through the League on a 25% commission basis, works for himself but also works just as hard for the League.

men's Fair, which is an annual event, has gained a very considerable National reputation.

Because the income from the sale of craft articles is relatively small, older people are by far the largest group of workers. Some manual dexterity and a feeling for form and color, as well as a desire to create a high-grade piece of craftsmanship, are about all the prerequisites for success. Almost everyone has these abilities. The older worker is serious, willing to give a lot of time to learning, and in most cases learns craft work very quickly.

The financial return is limited by two factors, namely, the ability of the producer and the salability of the article. There is, however, a good supplementary income for the craftsman. This work is especially suited to the needs of older persons having some other means of support but needing more income.

#### A COOPERATIVE EFFORT

The whole craft movement must of necessity be a joint effort. It can succeed only in proportion to the amount of effort the people in the local community are willing to exert to support the two objectives of offering training and increasing sales.

The full story of the League has been told in Allen H. Eaton's "Handicrafts of New England." (Harper's) On a dollars and cents basis alone, the effort can rightly be called a success. But there are other values that never can be measured: the deep satisfaction that the individual derives from engaging in some form of creative activity like the arts and crafts.

Many of the very busy and contented workers, however, are not craftsmen at all. They are the volunteers who are carrying on the multitude of little things that have to be done. They make it possible for the League to operate the classes and provide training for the crafts and an outlet for the products, and also to enable it to hold an annual Fair which is attended by upward of 30,000 people. They are constantly assisting the craftsmen in producing articles of better workmanship and design.

Over the years the two factors - sales and production - have been kept fairly well in balance. New sales outlets have required renewed effort in training. As more craftsmen were developed, new markets had to be found. The result has been a healthy growth.

As of today the League has some 3800 members. Probably 90% of the present craftsmen in New Hampshire are in the aging group, and perhaps 85% learned their skills after the age of 50. Many of these craftsmen have their own markets and are not dependent on the League as a sale outlet. New members are constantly being trained for the new career of retirement. This is being done before they have reached the retiring age. The change is not difficult and in many cases is welcome. A whole field of work is open and the "new generation" seems to be very happy in that field.

## "The Play's the Thing" to Spark Discussion Meetings

In cooperation with the Mental Health Materials Center, the American Theatre Wing Community Plays has published several one-act plays, suitable for production by amateur groups, on various topics involving human relations. One of them, "The Room Upstairs," is concerned with an important facet of the aging problem. It dramatizes the relationship of an elderly widow and her married daughter and husband, all living under one roof, and presents impartially the psychological problems with which each is faced.

The script is written by Nora Sterling, a professional TV and radio writer and is, in every respect, an expert job. At the play's end a discussion leader takes over to elicit points of view of the audience. Those who have seen a production of the play agree that it offers an effective method of creating audience interest in the subject and enables the ensuing discussion to "get under way with a bang."

"The Room Upstairs" calls for only 4 characters. No scenery is required except a few conventional props. The running time is 30 minutes. Performing rights in New York City and within a radius of 50 miles are reserved for the professional casts of the ATWCP. Otherwise, producing packets (6 scripts - 1 for each actor plus 1 each for director and discussion leader) are available at \$5.00, with substantial rebates for larger quantities. Single copies of the play, \$1.00.

For more detailed information write the Human Relation Aids, 1790 Broadway, New York 19.

## One Way to Get A Hospital For the Chronically Ill

In Southern Virginia, 13 counties are joint owners of a hospital for the chronically ill. Patrick Henry Hospital was originally an army camp, near Newport News, abandoned after World War II. Use of the property was secured from the War Assets Administration by a group of local citizens, headed by a physician. Money needed for renovation and remodeling of the buildings was raised by an assessment of 20 cents per capita on each political subdivision.

The result is a flourishing institution serving all 13 counties and 5 cities. Patients range in age from 40 to 107 years. Most of them suffer from paralysis, heart trouble, rheumatism, diabetes or senility.

The hospital remains a private rather than a public institution, with its own elected board

of directors. This enables old-age assistance patients to continue to receive their benefits and "pay their own way" for services rendered. So far the hospital has succeeded in financing itself on the fees set. As a result, other neighboring counties have asked to be admitted.

The story of Patrick Henry Hospital is told in the October 1953 issue of the Virginia Health Bulletin, published by the State Department of Health in Richmond. It is a heartening account of the way things can get done when someone is determined to do them. Or in other words, there are more ways than one to skin a cat.

## Part Time Jobs for Older Women: The Madison, Wis., Exchange

The January issue of The Ladies' Home Journal carries an interesting article under the title "When An Older Woman Wants A Job". It is an account of the Madison (Wis.) Woman's Service Exchange, organized in April 1952 by Mrs. Philip F. LaFollette, wife of the former Governor, to help women (the majority are over 40) find useful work and earn extra money.

By arrangement with the State Board of Vocational and Adult Education, space was found for the project in the placement department of the Madison Vocational School. A former shorthand teacher, Miss Emily Hand, was put in charge and soon found herself, as she reports, "trying to match job openings and applicants in her sleep." Former office workers who had grown rusty in their typing and stenography were referred to the school's commercial department for a refresher course. A committee of women club leaders, welfare officials, etc., undertook a campaign of radio and newspaper publicity in behalf of the Exchange.

In the first year of operation, the Exchange interviewed over 200 women and placed more than half in part-time jobs. Applicants include housewives and mothers, widows, and former teachers. A similar venture is being organized in Oshkosh, Wis.

Without question, the Madison Exchange offers a practical way of dealing with a problem which is faced by millions of older women throughout the country. Address is 1428 Vilas Ave., Madison.

### New U. of Michigan Recordings

"New Goals for the Aging" is a series of twelve 15-minute informal round table discussions, tape recorded, of special interest to middle-aged people. Available free to radio stations, or may be had for 50 cents each (\$6.00 for series) when purchaser furnishes own tape. Address: Audio-Visual Aids, U. of M., Ann Arbor.

# Aging

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Subscription: 50 cents a year for 6 issues. Send to Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. The printing of this bulletin has been approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, October 6, 1953.

## Lifetime Living's Lecture Outlines on Aging

Lifetime Living, the magazine "for people who plan ahead," has come up with a grand idea. It has developed a series of 9 lecture outlines, "How to Live From Forty On," with pertinent bibliography material, for panel discussions of various aspects of aging. Topics covered are: Enriching the Years Ahead; Your Health After 40; Financing Your Future; Employment at 40-Plus; Educational Goals for Maturity; Adult Recreation and Hobbies; Your Adjustment to Retirement; The Grown-Up Family; Your Community and You. Designed for civic, fraternal, religious, social groups, etc., that may wish to feature the "aging problem" at their luncheon or other meetings.

For full details, see February issue of Lifetime Living; or write Lifetime Living Club Service, 22 East 38th Street, New York 16, N. Y. No charge is made for outline material.

## Conferences To Come

Remember April 4-7, dates of the Second Southern Regional Conference on Recreation for the Aging to be held at Chapel Hill's University of North Carolina. Conference director, Professor Harold D. Myer, will send detailed information if you'll write him at Box 1139, Chapel Hill.

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"Aging: Everybody's Business" is the title of the University of Michigan's Seventh Annual Conference on Aging. Dates are June 28-30 in Ann Arbor.

Focus of attention will be to determine the dimensions of senior citizen potential in terms of range of interests and needs and to discover the responsibilities of all organized groups in providing opportunity for individual self-realization and responsible community citizenship. The Michigan workshop pattern will be extended to provide extensive opportunity for general participation.

For details write to Dr. Wilma Donahue, Chairman, Division of Gerontology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

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Ohio. March 23-24 is the date set for a State-wide Conference on Aging to be held on the Ohio State University campus in Columbus. The Conference is sponsored by the University and the Ohio Citizens' Council for Health and Welfare. Employment and retirement, health, recreation, social services, housing, and community responsibility will be considered. Further information may be had by writing to Conference Chairman, President Howard L. Bevis, Ohio State University, Columbus.

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Dates have been set on Hawaii's Territorial Conference on Aging. A large public meeting on the evening of April 23 will be followed by a full day of round-table discussions on the 24th and a roundup summary meeting. General chairman is John Midkiff, a retired sugar plantation manager. Harold S. Burr, Deputy Regional Director of Region IX, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, is active in organizing the Conference.

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The American Geriatrics Society will hold its 11th Annual Meeting, June 17-19, at the Fairmount Hotel, San Francisco, just preceding the meeting of the American Medical Association. Hotel reservations should be made at once through the San Francisco Convention and Visitors Bureau, 200 Civic Auditorium, San Francisco 2, Calif. Meeting is open to all physicians and scientists interested in the field of geriatrics.

Subscription Renewals. If your paid subscription to Aging began with the May 1953 issue you will receive a renewal blank. Be sure to fill out and return promptly to the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C. Do not send renewals to our office. (ED)

## Re-training Older Women for Office Work

The July issue of Aging carried a brief article on a re-training experiment being conducted in New York City to enable women 35 years of age or older who have been out of the labor market for a considerable period of time to re-acquire former skills as typists and stenographers. The experiment, initiated in the Spring of 1952, is a project of the New York Home and School of Industry under the direction of Dorothy Warren.

Now comes a report of two similar pilot projects, in Cleveland and Denver, sponsored by the Women's Bureau and the Bureau of Employment Security of the U. S. Department of Labor in cooperation with State Employment agencies, the local public school systems and various private organizations. Both these projects had the double purpose of developing a practical approach to employment problems of older women and a way to overcome the acute shortages in clerical help which have been felt for the past few years in many sections of the country.

This report "Older" Women As Office Workers," is largely the work of Pearl Ravner of the Women's Bureau and contains not only an account of the Cleveland and Denver projects but a detailed analysis of the New York experiment as well. It also describes the successful experience of a large Milwaukee bank in hiring and training older women with home responsibilities for part-time clerical jobs.

In Denver the procedure was as follows: local women's organization took over responsibility for handling the publicity for the program and securing qualified women to sign up for the training classes. The Colorado State Employment Service screened the candidates, testing them where necessary for basic capabilities. Actual training was undertaken by a non-fee vocational school, part of the Denver public school system, which organized the classes and provided the teaching staff. Upon completion of the course the trainees were returned to the Employment Service for assistance in finding a job. Procedure in Cleveland was more or less similar.

In New York applicants were referred to the school by special arrangement with three selected employment agencies - one a public employment service, the others sponsored by two religious denominations. After they had reached a requisite standard of performance (and a fairly stiff one, at that) they were transferred back to the initiating agency for placement.

### FROM AGE 35 TO 60

With all three projects, it should be emphasized, only women 35 years or older who had

had previous experience as stenographers or touch typists were accepted. Ages of those enrolled ranged from 35 to 60.

The amount of time devoted to the refresher courses varied with each project. In New York a schedule of 4-hour day-time sessions, 5 days a week for 8 weeks, was maintained. In Cleveland a similar program was limited to 5 weeks. In Denver a schedule of twice-a-week evening classes (7:15 to 9:15) was spread out over a period of 18 weeks.

Not all applicants were required to finish the full course. Some, it was found, had greater residual skills than others, or could bring them up to par more quickly. As soon as they were judged qualified for a job they were released to go look for one.

Nor did these classes confine themselves only to refresher training in mechanical skills. The trainee was given the psychological help she needed in getting and successfully holding a job. Planned talks and group discussions were directed towards overcoming discouragement and bolstering her self-confidence. Wherever possible, instructors who had a sound grasp on the problems of older women were selected.

This phase of the process was regarded as of major importance. For even though a woman has acquired new confidence in her skill at the typewriter or with the stenographic book, she still has to develop a confidence in her ability to overcome the disheartening prejudices that operate in the job marked against the hiring of women who have passed the 35 or 40 mark.

Despite the fact that, so far, these pilot projects have handled only a very small number of applicants they have indubitably proved their point. A follow-up by the New York school on the first group of women "graduates" brought replies from 35 of the 59 who had taken the refresher training course. Of these, 31 had secured jobs - 6 with the help of the public employment service, 2 through commercial agencies, and 23 through their own efforts. Salaries ranged from \$37 to \$66 a week, and a third of those employed had already received salary raises based on good performance. In Denver practically all of the 25 trainees originally enrolled secured jobs. Whether these findings will hold if the shortage of clerical workers becomes less acute remains, of course, to be seen.

### ALSO, PART-TIME WORK

No less interesting than the report of these refresher projects is that of the experience of a Milwaukee bank in developing a successful program for the training of middle-aged and older women for part-time work. Faced with

a shortage of workers for jobs ordinarily performed by younger women, the bank devised a plan for using, as business machine operators, older women capable of doing the work but who could accept it only on a part-time basis because of their responsibilities at home. After an intensive training period (for which they were paid full wages) the women were assigned a given number of hours a week for which to report for work.

Set up originally as an experiment, under stress of necessity, the experiment has proved so satisfactory that it has become a permanent part of the bank's operation. Several hundred women are now employed on a part-time basis. In fact, the bank has found that in terms of low job turnover, less absenteeism, greater accuracy and general dependability, the older woman has proved literally a "better buy."

Office workers were chosen as the subject of this report because, although there are existing shortages, office work is still considered strictly a young woman's field. It engages 42 percent of all women under 25 years of age in the labor force, and the median age of the 5 million so employed is 31. The Women's Bureau is planning a similar study of a number of programs now in operation for the training of older women for other than clerical operations. This report is expected to be ready some time in the summer of 1954.

Copies of "Older Women as Office Workers" may be had by writing to the Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington 25, D. C. It can profitably be read in connection with the excellent study of "Older Women Clerical Workers in Cleveland," prepared by the Occupational Planning Committee of the Cleveland Welfare Federation in November 1952.

## The Way the Wind Blows

King County (Seattle) Hospital Extension Service, with medical, nursing, and social service facilities, is returning to their homes many older persons who would ordinarily remain institutionalized. Periodic medical visits, nursing services and instruction of family members, and social work services are brought to bear on a coordinated and planned basis. Important feature is that advanced students in all three fields are getting first-hand "field" experience. Reported in Chronic Illness News Letter, Dec. 1953.

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Nursing Homes, Journal of the Amer. Assn. of Nursing Homes, for December 1953, reports forward-looking developments. In Indiana, a jointly sponsored Operators' Educational Training Institute brought 24 operators together for three days' intensive study of medical and management problems at the University's medical school. In Illinois, the University's Extension Division sponsored the 4-day Fifth

Management Institute for Nursing Home Owners. In Rhode Island, the Governor proclaimed a Nursing Home Day. All homes held open house for their communities and reported gratifying attendance.

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The Kansas Department of Social Welfare, the Association of Licensed Nursing Homes, and the University of Kansas cooperated on the 4th institute on nursing home operation late in January.

Recurring week-long workshops for nursing home operators are being offered at Topeka State Hospital by the Hospital and State Social Welfare staff, according to Mrs. Loudell Frazier, 801 Harrison Street, Topeka.

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Home Nursing techniques are being taught experimentally over TV by Harris County (Texas) Chapter, American Red Cross. Fourteen one-half hour programs should have special interest for all concerned with the care of older people in their own homes. University of Houston's School of Nursing is co-sponsor over educational station KUHT.

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Akron, Ohio's new Citizens' Committee on Aging held its first area-wide conference in January. Chief focus of interest was proposal to establish a counseling and information center along with an activity center. Conference was spark-plugged by the local chapter of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

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Cleveland, Ohio. Women's City Club recently held a club luncheon and panel discussion on "Protective and Attendant Care for Our Aged and Chronically Ill Persons." Cleveland's Committee on Older People was one of a dozen voluntary groups co-sponsoring the meeting.

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Hardin County, Iowa, held an all-day conference on aging sponsored by Iowa State College and Iowa Christian Rural Fellowship. Principal questions discussed were the future role of the senior citizen, making use of the retired citizens in the church, women and the challenge of retirement, and senior citizen in public life. Source of further information is Wm. H. Dreier, Hubbard, Iowa.

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On January 25-26, the Pennsylvania Council of Churches and the Pennsylvania State Council of Christian Education sponsored a State-wide Institute at Harrisburg on "The Community and the Aging" with emphasis on the place of the church in ministering to the aging. The Harrisburg Committee on Aging and several other groups cooperated.

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"Criteria for the Continued Employment of Older Workers" is the subject of the next major project to be sponsored by the National Committee on Aging of the National Social Welfare Assembly and the McGregor Fund. An Advisory Committee has been set up and the

first meeting is scheduled to take place in New York City early in March.

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University of Michigan's Extension Service has a new course, "Understanding Your Older Folks," starting February 9 and running for 8 weeks. Coordinator is Dr. Wilma Donahue.

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The YMCA Golden Age Club of Akron, Ohio, has a membership of 200 active, retired men organized by a retired YMCA Secretary. Management rests largely with the Club; the major problem they have not solved is that of getting use of the building for more than one afternoon a week. The "Y" has issued special, reduced membership. Dying words of one member: "I'll miss the Golden Age Club."

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Top Flight Personnel is the title of a leaflet describing the qualifications of typical workers aged 63 to 80 available for employment in the Baltimore area. The folder was widely distributed among employers in the community by the Employment Service, State Department of Employment Security, Baltimore, Md.

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Rollins College (Florida) Economic Conference on February 5 and 6 was devoted to the subject "Facing Retirement Problems Practically." Conferees addressed themselves to health, financial activities, aspects of later life. A good deal of attention was given to management's responsibilities in individual retirement planning. Director of the Conference was Dr. W. D. Robbins; Consultant was Harold R. Hall.

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Greenwich, Conn. Red Cross volunteers work in coordination with local hospital, nursing, and welfare agencies in providing visiting services to hospital and homebound older persons. Joint conferences assure complete service without overlapping.

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Owners and executives of Homes have formed the Association of Southern California Homes for the Aged for mutual advancement and program improvement. Experiences are shared at quarterly meetings which are held in member Homes of the Association. Problems of general concern, such as employee compensation rates and tax status, are handled through committees representing the entire group. Association Secretary is Miss Elsa Erickson, 612 Figueroa St., Los Angeles 17.

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New York, N. Y. Three hundred city social agencies recently met to discuss ways in which to reduce the long waiting period for admissions to homes for the aged. The conference was called by the Health and Welfare Council, 44 E. 23d Street, New York 10.

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Washington School of Psychiatry, Washington, D. C., is midway along in a series of 10 lectures on the Problems of Aging. Renowned Edward J. Stieglitz, M.D. is the lecturer.

## Books, Pamphlets and Reports

Social Work Yearbook, 1954. New York, American Association of Social Workers, 1954. \$6.00 plus 20 cents postage. A one-volume encyclopaedia of social welfare. Seventy-three specialists contribute topical articles, one on The Aging per se and several on closely related topics. Also contains a directory of 520 national and international agencies.

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Gradually reports are coming in of basic, painstaking research on psycho-sociological aspects of aging. Such a document is "A Study of the Socialization of Old People" appearing in the December 1953 issue of Geriatrics. The study, conducted by W. Donahue, W. W. Hunter, and D. Coons of the University of Michigan's Division of Gerontology, was a carefully controlled measurement of behavior changes resulting from the introduction of an activity-social program in homes for the aged. The implications are clear for all who manage congregate living facilities.

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Old Age and Retirement in Rural Connecticut, by Walter C. McKain, Jr., Elmer D. Baldwin, and Louis J. Ducoff. Bull. 299, Storrs Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Connecticut, Storrs, 1953. Pp 51. Farmers in this State, as in Texas and Wisconsin where similar studies were made, eschew retirement. But, facing reality, most are trying to save for old age, and 80 percent give approval to the old-age and survivors insurance program. The report discusses financial security and modern farming, preferred living arrangements when retirement becomes necessary, assets, and the status of farm laborers.

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Blueprint for a Hobby Show for Older Persons. Welfare and Health Council of New York City. 44 East 23d St., New York 10. 1953. 20 pages mimeo. \$1.00. The Council, with 7 years of hobby show experience, shares the results of this experience with other groups that may be considering this means of drawing public attention to older person skills.

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Older Adults in the Church, written by Virginia Stafford and published by The Methodist Publishing House, 1953. Pp. 96. 35 cents. Provides the "how to do" for churches wishing to make sure that older adults in their congregations and communities have the services they need. Particular emphasis is placed on opportunities to associate with others, to learn, and to engage in the most satisfying and Christian of all activities--serving others. Useful, with very little adaptation, to clubs and community committees.

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Health in the Later Years, University of Florida Institute of Gerontology, Gainesville, University of Florida Press. 1953. Pp x + 123. \$1.50. The Third Annual Southern Conference on Gerontology focussed on the topic

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"Florida Plans for a Healthy Senior Citizen", with special reference to the design and function of health centers. The 14 papers by specialists from many parts of the country come at the topic from several medical and non-medical but related angles. Fortunate are those who possess all three Florida Conference reports.

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Entry and Reentry of the Older Women Into the Labor Market, published by the Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington 25, D. C., p. 20. This is a preprint of papers presented by Mary N. Hilton and Pearl C. Ravner at the University of Michigan's 1953 Conference on Aging. The papers deal with the influx of women into the labor force and with the obstacles met by older women seeking entry.

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A forward-looking, integrated hospital-nursing home operation in Vancouver, B.C., is described in the January 1954 News Letter of the Commission on Chronic Illness, 615 North Wolfe Street, Baltimore 5. The December News Letter described a unique hospital extension service in King County Hospital, Seattle. (See WIND item p. 6)

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Collected Papers in Social Security reports pros and cons of the Social Security program as voiced at the 1953 annual meeting of the National Conference of Social Work. Copies may be had from the Conference, 22 W. Gay Street, Columbus 15, Ohio. \$1.25.

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Add Life to Their Years by Catherine Lee Wahlstrom. National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, 120 E. 23d St., New York 10. 76 pages. \$1.00. This is a handbook on activity programs in homes for the aged. Techniques and activities described are already being used in some homes to remove residents from the vicious monotony of the rocking chair and the

infirmary bed. One notable feature is the emphasis given to placing responsibility for planning and decision-making into the hands of the residents.

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Prescription for Living is the digest of a TV presentation in Cleveland's "Live Longer and Like It" series sponsored by the Standard Oil Company of Ohio. Copies are available for the use of getting-started groups from author Dr. Bruno Gebhard, Director, Cleveland Health Museum, 8911 Euclid Ave., Cleveland 6.

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Cook Alone - and Like It is the title of a captivating collection of recipes for older people, contributed by members of the Senior Citizens of Ithaca, N. Y., enrolled in an adult education class of the Ithaca Public Schools. For a copy, send 25 cents care of Jeanette B. McCay, Route 1, Ithaca, New York

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Join the Fun, A Guide to Oldsters Clubs is a simple set of particulars about organized groups for older people in Cincinnati. Used effectively when placed in the hands of ministers, physicians, caseworkers and others who have occasion to help older people emerge from their retirement shells. Write to Mrs. Dorothy Lawson, Director, Community Council for the Aging, 312 W. 9th Street, Cincinnati, for a copy.

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Adult Leadership, publication of the Adult Education Association, will devote its entire May issue to aging.

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Time Is Now, by Marjorie B. Paradis, New York: Abelard Press, 1953, \$3.50. Fiction with a good deal of basis in fact. It is a plausible story of an older woman who rebels at the lack of stimulating activity in the conventional home for the aged, and takes the lead in converting a dull institution into a lively club. Develops most of the personal problems of aging.